been reported by the Office of Director General of Foreign Trade, who are the export licensing authority, that the Government of Maharashtra has been allotted a quota of 1.60 lakh MTs of Non-Fair Average Quality Jowar and 3.30 lakh MTs of Fair Average Quality Jowar and that no request for export of 7 lakh tonnes of hybrid jowar has been received from the State Govt.

Refusal to Release Marine Oil Subsidy of MPEDA

1881. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that MPEDA had turned down some fishing units for release of marine oil subsidy in Visakhapatnam ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) steps being taken to make the scheme flexible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir. No eligible deep sea fishing operator who has applied for assistance under High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil price reimbursement scheme has been deprived of it by MPEDA.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The scheme is functioning smoothly. However, any suggestion to streamline the procedure within the parameters of the scheme shall be considered.

Import of Consumer products

1882. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKAR DAVE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of foreign countries and the total quantity of consumer products like toothpaste, face cream and other goods which were imported during the last two years ;

(b) the foreign exchange incurred on the Import of these items during the above period ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to produce these items in the country and to save foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Under the current EXIM Policy, consumer products, like toothpaste, face cream etc. are covered by the negative list of imports and as such these are not allowed to be imported. Toothpaste and face cream have not been imported during the last two years. viz. 1991-92 and 1992 93. Import data of other consumer products which contains a very long list of items is published in the Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India, Vol. II brought out by DGCI&S, Calcutta which is available in the Parliament Library.

(c) The liberalised policy initiatives being pursued by the Govt. are expected to boost up the production of consumer items resulting in saving of foreign exchange.

GATT Secretariat urging for market Access to India

1883. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Secretarit has urged India's trading partners to provide more market access for stable trading conditions for the latter to persist with its trade reforms ;

(b) if so, whether any suggestions have been submitted in this regard ;

(c) whether Government have examined these suggestions ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) The report prepared by the GATT Secretariat for India's first Trade Policy